

U.S. Serial No. 08/860,007
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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 - 7 and 9-12 without prejudice.

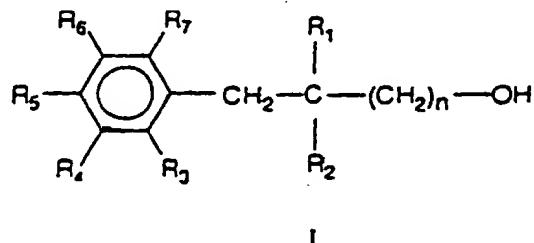
Please amend claim 8 as follows:

Claim 8, line 1, replace "6" with --14--;

line 2, delete "or II".

Please add new claims 13-25 as follows:

--13. A compound according to formula I,

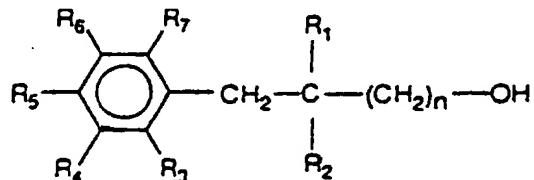


wherein R₁, R₃, R₅, R₆, and R₇ are hydrogen; R₂ is an ethyl group; R₄ is chlorine; and n is 1 or 2.

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14. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative comprising:

a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and at least one compound according to formula I:



wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2,

with the proviso, that

i) when R₁ and all groups R₃ through R₇ are hydrogen, then

$$n = 2;$$

ii) when R₁ and R₂ are C₁-C₆ alkyl and

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a) all groups R_3 to R_7 are hydrogen, or

b) R_5 is methyl, methoxy or chloride, and all other groups R_3 ,
 R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen,
then $n = 2$;

iii) when R_1 , R_2 and R_4 are methyl and all groups R_3 and R_5 through R_7 are
hydrogen, then $n = 2$;

iv) when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl,
isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then $n = 2$;

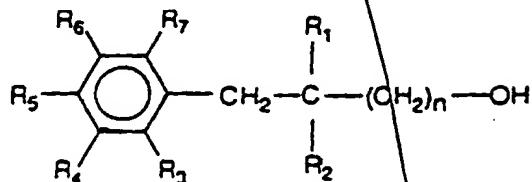
v) when R_1 , R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and R_4 and/or R_5 are
hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, then $n = 2$;

vi) when R_1 and R_4 through R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl or ethyl, and R_3 is
methyl or methoxy, then $n = 2$;

vii) when R_1 , R_3 , R_5 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_4 and R_6 are methyl
or R_4 is hydrogen and R_6 is methyl, then $n = 2$; and

viii) when R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is butyl, R_3 and R_5 are chloride, and all other groups
 R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then $n = 2$.

15. Process for the production of a compound of formula I:



wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2;

with the proviso, that

i) when R₁ and all groups R₃ through R₇ are hydrogen, then

$$n = 2;$$

ii) when R₁ and R₂ are C₁-C₆ alkyl and

a) all groups R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, or

b) R₅ is methyl, methoxy or chloride, and all other groups R₃,

R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen,

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then n = 2;

iii) when R₁, R₂ and R₄ are methyl and all groups R₃ and R₅ through R₇ are hydrogen, then n = 2;

iv) when R₁ and all groups R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen and R₅ is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2;

v) when R₁, R₃, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen, R₂ is methyl, and R₄ and/or R₅ are hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl, then n = 2;

vi) when R₁ and R₄ through R₇ are hydrogen, R₂ is methyl or ethyl, and R₃ is methyl or methoxy, then n = 2;

vii) when R₁, R₃, R₅ and R₇ are hydrogen, R₂ is methyl, R₄ and R₆ are methyl or R₄ is hydrogen and R₆ is methyl, then n = 2; and

viii) when R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is butyl, R₃ and R₅ are chloride, and all other groups R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen, then n = 2;

said process comprising the steps of:

- monoalkylating a malonic acid dialkyl ester to introduce the group R₂;
- dialkylating the monoalkylated malonic acid alkyl ester with a benzyl halide optionally substituted at the aromatic ring to introduce the groups R₃ through R₇ which are other than hydrogen;
- saponifying and decarboxylating the dialkylated malonic acid dialkyl ester to form a corresponding 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid, and

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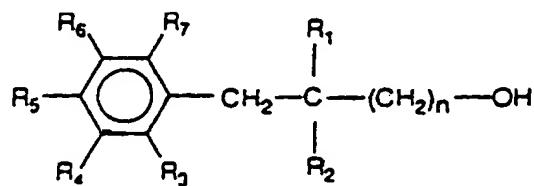
d) reducing the 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid to form a desired alcohol of formula I.

16. A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.01 to about 10% by weight.

17. A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.05 to about 8% by weight.

18. A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 5% by weight.

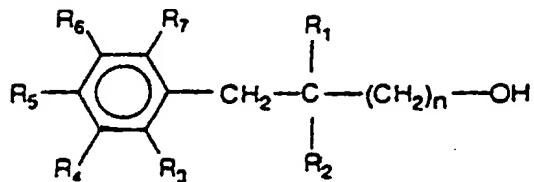
19. A compound according to the formula I



wherein R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are all hydrogen, R₅ is methyl, R₂ is ethyl, R₁ is hydrogen, and n = 1.

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20. Process for the production of a compound of formula I:



I

wherein, R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are all hydrogen, R₅ is methyl, R₂ is ethyl, R₁ is hydrogen, and n = 1

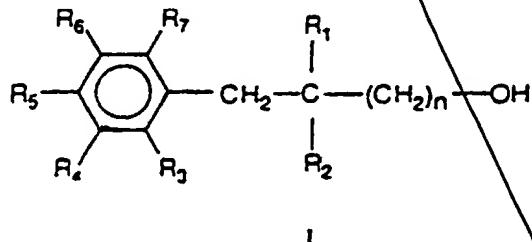
said process comprising the steps of:

- a) monoalkylating a malonic acid dialkyl ester to introduce the group R₂;
- b) dialkylating the monoalkylated malonic acid alkyl ester with a benzyl halide optionally substituted at the aromatic ring to introduce the groups R₃ through R₇ which are other than hydrogen;
- c) saponifying and decarboxylating the dialkylated malonic acid dialkyl ester to form a corresponding 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid, and
- d) reducing the 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid to form a desired alcohol of formula I.

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21. A shampoo or shower gel containing a preservative comprising:

- a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents;
- a re-fattening agent; and
- a compound according to formula I:



wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

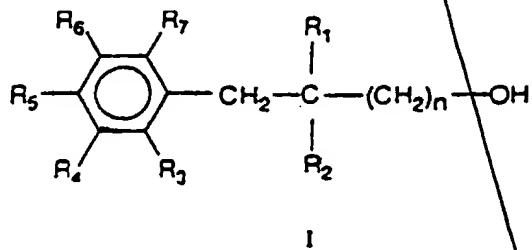
each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2.

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22. A method of disinfecting a surface comprising the step of applying a disinfectant to said surface, said disinfectant comprising:

a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and

a compound according to formula I according to formula I:



wherein,

*Sab/C
Varied* R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

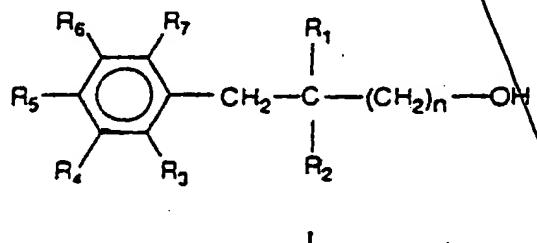
R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein said surface is skin, a mucous membrane, or a surgical glove.

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24. A method of deodorizing a surface comprising the step of applying a disinfectant to said surface, said deodorant comprising:
a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and
a compound according to formula I:



wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2.

25. A method according to claim 24, wherein said surface is skin.- -